The Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association

Appalachian Trail Thru-Hikers' Companion

Kyosho Connick
&
John F. O'Mahoney
Co-Editors

Appalachian Trail Conference
HARPERS FERRY

2005 Companion Update

George W. Outerbridge Shelter (1965)—Sleeps 6. No privy. The area surrounding this shelter suffers from heavy-metal contamination from the zinc plant at Palmerton (see Superfund entry below). Water source is a piped spring north 150 yards on the A.T.

Pa. 873/Lehigh Gap—**East** 2 miles on Pa. 873 to **Slatington, Pa. [P.O. ZIP 18080: M–F 8:30–5, Sa 8:30–12; (610) 767-2182].** *Lodging:* Fine Lodging, call ahead, (610) 760-0700, 700 Main St. Large hiker room $15S, $25D, $30T, $35 for 4, $5EAP; TV, microwave, a/c; other rooms are sometimes available for $32S, $35D, a/c $4, microwave $2; no dogs and no alcoholic beverages permitted. Owner Ira Fine when available shuttles guests to and from the A.T. Call from the office phone at D & J Auto, where the A.T. meets Pa. 873 on the southern side of the Lehigh River. UPS and FedEx packages will be held if addressed to Fine Lodging, 700 Main St., Slatington, PA 18080. *Restaurants:* The Shack, L/D; Mama's Pizza; Dave's Uptown Deli. *Other services:* coin laundry, bank with ATM, convenience stores, hardware store, doctor, dentist, pharmacy, bowling alley, and bus service to Walnutport and Allentown. **East** 2 miles on Pa. 145 to **Walnutport, Pa. [P.O. ZIP 18088: M–F 8:30–5, Sa 8:30–12; (610) 767-5191].** Town services include Super Fresh Supermarket (long-term resupply); Valley Restaurant, $4.50 AYCE L, Chinese restaurant; Burger King; McDonalds; banks with ATM; doctor; dentist; pharmacy; veterinarian; K-Mart. **West** 2 miles on Pa. 248 to the town of **Palmerton, Pa. [P.O. ZIP 18071: M–F 8:30–5, Sa 8:30–12, (570) 826-2286].** *Lodging:* The city allows hikers to sleep in the basement of the borough hall, (570) 826-2505, 401 Delaware Ave., with the use of showers at no charge. Hikers should check in at the borough office before 4:30 p.m.; the town police admit hikers after 4:30 weekdays and Sa–Su. You will need to provide an ID, name, address, Trail name, and SSN. Rides back to the Trail are not included—find your own way. Parkside Inn, $45S. *Groceries:* ICA and Country Harvest (both long-term resupply). *Restaurants:* Bert's Steakhouse, B/L/D; Parkside Inn, B/L/D; Tony's Pizzeria; Joe's Place, deli sandwiches; Subway; Hunan House Chinese. *Internet access:* Town library. *Other services:* coin laundry, banks with ATM, hardware store, pharmacy, doctor, dentist, and hospital.

Palmerton EPA Superfund Site—The devastation along Blue Mountain near Lehigh Gap is the result of nearly a century of zinc smelting in Palmerton. In 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency shut down the furnaces and, in 1982, put the affected area on the Superfund cleanup list. Revegetation efforts are underway, and the mountain is slowly coming back to life. A product called Ecoloam—consisting of municipal-waste sludge, fly ash, lime, fertilizer, and seeds—has been spread on the slopes. Before you curse the zinc manufacturers, consider that zinc is likely one of the metals in the grommets and eyelets on your backpack. It is used in everything from face powder to zippers. The scramble up the denuded rocks from Lehigh Gap is among the most challenging on the A.T. south of New Hampshire.

Appalachian Mountain Club—Delaware Valley Chapter—AMC–Delaware Valley maintains the 15.4 miles from Little Gap to Wind Gap. Correspondence should be sent to 1180 Greenleaf Dr., Bethlehem, PA 18017.

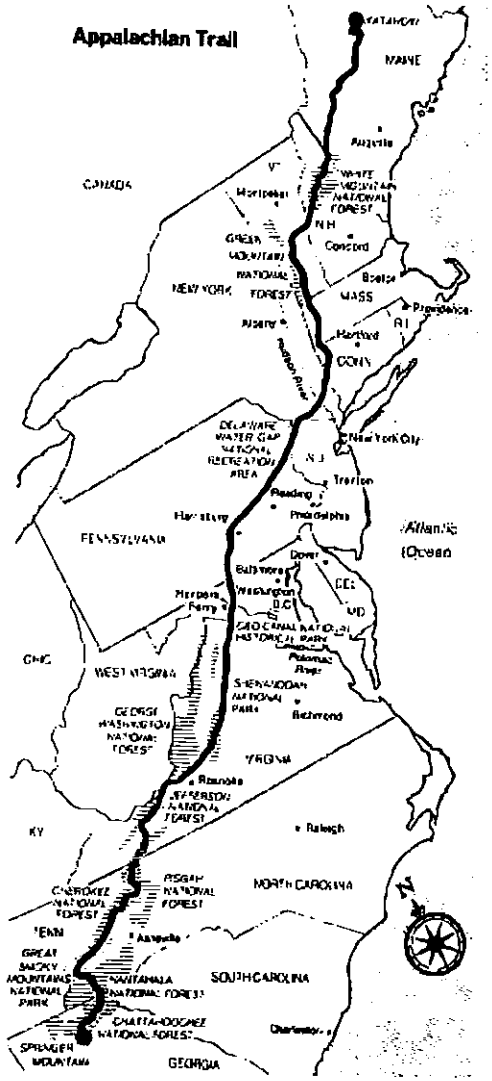
Smith Gap Road—For northbounders, it is the first road after the Trailside mailbox/register. Follow Smith Gap Rd. **west** 1 mile to a water spigot at the rear of the house of Linda Gellock and John Stempa; free cold shower, hiker's register, camera for self-portraits. Pets welcome.

Leroy A. Smith Shelter (1972)—Sleeps 8. Privy (composting). Built by the AMC–Delaware Valley Chapter, shelter is located 0.2 mile down a blue-blazed trail. Water source is fairly reliable, one 0.2 mile down the blue-blazed side trail; a second source, 0.2 mile farther.

Batona Hiking Club—BHC maintains the 8.6 miles from Wind Gap to Fox Gap (Pa. 191).

Pa. 33—**East** 1 mile to the town of **Wind Gap, Pa. [P.O. ZIP 18091: M–F 8:30–5, Sa 8:30–12; (610) 863-6206].** *Lodging:* Travel Inn, (610) 863-4146, $50 for queen-sized bed, $60 for two double beds, $5EAP, dogs $7 each, soda machine inside, shuttle back to the Trail. *Groceries:* Giant and Sandt's Market (long-term resupply); Turkey Hill Mini Market (short-term resupply); Texaco Mini Mart (short-term resupply). *Restaurants:* Tony's Pizza; Beer Stein; McDonald's; Wendy's; Burger King; Hong Kong Restaurant; several diners serving B/L/D; other fast-food outlets. *Other services:* coin laundry, K-Mart, hardware store, package store, doctor, dentist, pharmacy, veterinarian,

006
ATC HARPERS FERRY
01/30/2004 FRI 11:23 FAX 3045352667



GUIDE TO

THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL IN PENNSYLVANIA

Number 5 of a Series

Wayne E. Gross
Editor

TENTH EDITION

KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION
Cogan Station, PA

1998

007
ATC HARPERS FERRY
01/30/2004 FRI 11:24 FAX 3045352667

Miles	Detailed Trail Data
14.0	At the top of the rocks is a view north to the Pocono Plateau and Big Pocono. Descend switchbacks.
14.1	Short trail on the right to Lookout Rock. Backtrack and descend.
14.3	Cross Eureka Creek in rhododendron growth. Return to edge of escarpment.
14.9	Council Rock. Down river the tilted strata of Mount Tammany on the left side of " The Gap " is said to show the profile of Chief Tammany.
15.0	Blue-blazed side trail to right reconnects with the A.T. at 15.2 miles.
15.1	Reach gravel road. Turn right downhill. The gravel road on the left leads up the mountain and to a side trail to Table Rock with a view of the Water Gap.
15.2	Pass Lake Lenape on the left. A blue- blazed side trail on the right reconnects with the A.T. at 15.0 miles.
15.4	Pass hikers parking lot on the left and follow Lake Drive (dirt road which becomes macadam. Turn right and follow Mountain Road downhill.
15.6	Cross Pa. Rt. 611 (Main Street) and continue on Waring Drive for 50 ft. Turn right onto Delaware Street which deadends in the toll bridge maintenance area.
15.8	Reach Pennsylvania end of the Interstate 80 bridge. To continue on A.T., cross Delaware River on this bridge to New Jersey.

SECTION 2

WIND GAP TO LEHIGH GAP

DISTANCE: 20.7 Miles

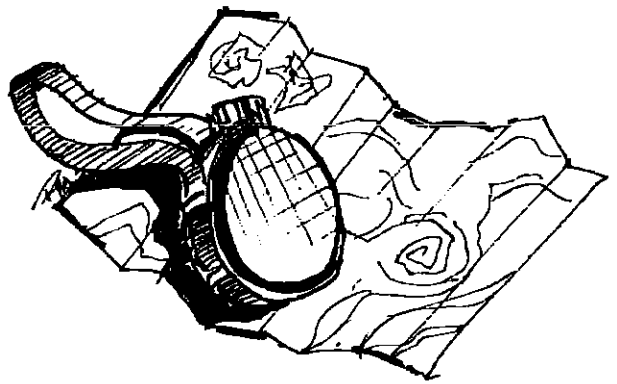
This section of Trail is maintained by the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club from Wind Gap to Little Gap, and by the Philadelphia Trail Club from Little Gap to Lehigh Gap.

OVERVIEW OF SECTION 2

The Trail is in State Game Lands most of the way, where overnight camping is permitted. (See introductory section on PA Game Lands.) After climbing out of Wind Gap, and passing Hahn's Lookout, the Trail stays on the ridge crossing Smith Gap until the dip and climb in Little Gap. From there, it traverses an open rocky area which gives impressive, if uninspiring, views of the railroads and Palmerton, industrial home of New Jersey Zinc Company. Close attention to the footway is advised in this area. Be sure to have a canteen of water since springs in the entire section are apt to be dry by early June most years. Part of Blue Mountain north of Lehigh Gap is in the 10 mile diameter Palmerton EPA Superfund Site caused by the zinc smelters that used to operate near Palmerton. The U.S. Public Health Service has advised that hiking this portion of the A.T. does not represent a public health threat.

008 ATC HARPERS FERRY 01/30/2004 FRI 11:25 FAX 3045352667

Miles	Detailed Trail Data
19.5	Cross a shoulder of the Blue Mountain with fine views of the valley. Descend steeply. Cross a rocky slide area of the ridge with continuous views, but extreme exposure to adverse weather. Watch carefully for blazes on rocks.
20.3	Cross old railbed and descend to PA Rt 248. Bear left to the traffic light.
20.4	Turn right and cross PA Rt. 248. Turn right along road to the bridge.
20.6	Cross to west end of the PA Rt 873 bridge, which crosses the Lehigh River.
20.7	At west end, turn right and carefully cross highway. Trail will continue up hill.



SECTION 2

LEHIGH GAP TO WIND GAP

SOUTH TO NORTH

Miles	Detailed Trail Data
0.0	From west end of PA Rt. 873 highway bridge across Lehigh River, cross bridge to east end, then turn right along PA Rt. 248.
0.4	Cross PA Rt. 248 at the traffic light, where it junctions with PA Rt. 145. Turn left along RT 248 for 150 feet. Turn right up embankment. Cross old railbed.
0.5	At the sign post, begin very steep climb up and over the ridge. The, blue blazed, Winter Trail continues straight ahead on the railbed and rejoins the AT in 1.5 miles. This is a less difficult route.
0.7	Enter open rocky area with no cover for the next 0.4 miles. Continuous views, but extreme exposure to adverse weather. Watch carefully for blazes on rocks.
1.1	Cross a shoulder of the Blue Mountain with excellent views. Continue to ascend over a rocky area.
1.4	Turn right at sign. The blue blazed Winter Trail comes in from the left.
1.8	Bear right, as the Trail enters a heavy growth of sassafras. This is shortly followed by a rocky area.

009
ATC HARPERS FERRY
01/30/2004 FRI 11:26 FAX 3045352667

Miles	Detailed Trail Data
2.0	Open area with views to north. Continue on old road.
4.1	Cross under high tension lines. Height of land to your right offers superior views.
4.6	Turn left off old road into footpath through the woods and begin descent.
5.2	Turn right onto old road. Information board and register on left. Pass around locked gate and cross pipeline.
5.3	Cross paved road in Little Gap. To the right, 1.5 mi., is Danielsville. Trail crosses bog, then up steep talus slope.
5.6	Weathering Knob. Views north and northwest.
8.6	Blue blazed trail on right leads to overlook in 130 yds. NO camping within view of the overlook.
9.0	Cross powerline.
10.1	Pass blue blazed Delps Trail on right (1.1 mi. to road). Very UNRELIABLE **SPRING** 0.3 mi. down side trail.
12.5	Cross Smith Gap Road.
13.0	Trail turns right on woods road.
16.0	Pass blue blazed Katellen Trail on right. AMC's Leroy A. Smith **SHELTER** at 0.14 mi. **SPRINGS** at 0.2, 0.4, and 0.5 mi. Road at 0.9 mi.
16.2	Fine view north at powerline.

Miles	Detailed Trail Data
17.9	Cross clearing of underground pipeline.
19.6	Pass Hahn's Lookout. View south to Wind Gap village and South Mountain in the distance. Trail bears right to south side of mountain.
19.9	Lookout Rocks with fine views of the Poconos in the distance to the north. In the foreground is Chestnut Valley through which flows beautiful Aquashicola Creek. Trail descends by switchbacks.
20.4	Cross pole line.
20.6	Descend last switchback with stone steps. Pass under PA Rt. 33 bridge.
20.7	Cross road to A.T. sign and parking lot.